

PRESS RELEASE

Stabila, fischer products shine at iconic 129 Rivonia Road project

16 April 2018: Leading brands fischer fixings and Stabila measuring equipment, distributed locally by Upat, played an integral role in ensuring the safe and speedy installation of the iconic façades at the 129 Rivonia Road development in Sandton, the site of the former Village Walk shopping centre.

Developed by the Eris Property Group, the project is a full redevelopment of the site. It comprises two high-rise towers, a 13-storey office tower and an 18-storey office tower, with a combined floor area of about 62 000 m². Below the two office towers will sit two levels of retail space, spanning about 15 000 m², with a seven-level parking basement of about 100 000 m² to service the precinct. The project is set for completion in early 2019.

The main contractor is Aveng-Grinaker LTA, which subcontracted fenestration company Geustyn & Horak (G&H) Aluminium to install the façades. All dowelling work on-site was carried out with fischer's FIS EM585 and FIS V410 injection mortars, while the tie-in of the brickwork was undertaken with fischer's spit gun and HC6 27 nails.

G&H Project Manager **Gere Sadie** notes that fischer's EXA HDG express anchors were used for the main façade brackets. The panels weighed between 150 kg and 310 kg, which required high-strength fixings. Stabiliser brackets of varying strengths were installed, depending on the type of substrate.

For the hollow blocks, fischer DUOPOWER plugs were used, in conjunction with coach screws. Furthermore, the installation was offset due to the uneven concrete, which is why fischer FIS V360 injection mortar with FIS studs proved ideal. For the heavy and oversized stabilising and fixings, fischer's FH-SK anchors were deployed.

All drill bits were supplied by fischer, namely its SDS MAX drill bits and accessories. Cladding on-site was carried out by Façade Solutions. For bracket installation, fischer FBS concrete screws were mainly used. Other fischer products used to install the façades included perforated sleeves, 12 mm and 10 mm hot dipped galvanised express anchors.

In addition, the Stabila Type 196 electronic spirit level was used in affixing the façades. The latter allowed for easy measurement, setting, or duplication of any slopes or angles on-site. The Type 196 spirit level can convert measurements to any scale instantly for added flexibility.

Sadie, who has been with G&H for 13 years, comments that he has only made use of fischer products and systems in all of that time, due to its trusted high-quality anchor bolts and fixing systems. G&H approached fischer initially during the engineering specification stage of the project, fischer Key Accounts Manager **Conrad Grobler** notes.

Grobler has been working with this particular customer for the past three years. These specifications included the type of slab construction opted for by the main contractor, as this would impact on the type of fixing systems used.

He highlights that fischer's broad product range means it has a fixing solution for all types of surfaces and applications. "We have a good relationship with G&H in particular, which greatly assisted in ensuring that all the correct products were used and applied as specified for this particular project," Grobler concludes.

Ends

Notes to the Editor

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About Upat

Upat SA (Pty) Ltd. is a 100% South African owned business that began trading in 1983. From the outset, Upat has been committed to the building industry, supplying not only a range of anchor bolts, but also rotary hammer drilling machines, tungsten-tipped masonry drill bits, powder actuated tools, and allied building and construction products. Upat's ability to supply a range of top-quality products at market-related prices has resulted in it becoming a market leader in Southern Africa. Upat is proudly the sole Southern African distributor of the fischer range of construction fasteners, the Milwaukee power-tool brand and the Stabila range of measuring tools.

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